

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:**

1-9. (Canceled).

10. (Currently Amended) A device for detecting an obstacle underride, comprising:  
at least one vertical distance measuring device situated on a vehicle front and ~~configured~~ aligned vertically to detect an obstacle underride, wherein the vertical distance measuring device measures only in a substantially vertical direction away from a vehicle underside.

11. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 10, wherein the vertical distance measuring device includes at least one transceiver.

12. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 11, wherein the at least one transceiver includes one of an ultrasonic sensor or a radar sensor.

13. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 10, wherein the vertical distance measuring device includes at least one video sensor.

14. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 10, wherein the vertical distance measuring device is situated on a bumper.

15. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 14, wherein the at least one vertical distance measuring device includes four vertical distance measuring devices for carrying out distance measurements at four locations on the bumper distanced from one another.

16. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 10, wherein the device is connectable to a control unit for a restraining arrangement in such a way that the control unit triggers the restraining arrangement as a function of a signal of the device.

17. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 10, wherein the device is configured to sense pedestrians.

18. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 10, wherein the vertical distance measuring device is situated on a rear bumper.

19. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 18, wherein the at least one vertical distance measuring device includes four vertical distance measuring devices for carrying out distance measurements at four locations on the bumper distanced from one another.

20. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 19, wherein the vertical distance measuring device includes at least one video sensor.

21. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 19, wherein the vertical distance measuring device includes at least one transceiver, wherein the at least one transceiver includes one of an ultrasonic sensor or a radar sensor.

22. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 15, wherein the vertical distance measuring device includes at least one video sensor.

23. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 15, wherein the vertical distance measuring device includes at least one transceiver, wherein the at least one transceiver includes one of an ultrasonic sensor or a radar sensor.

24. (New) The device according to claim 14, wherein the vertical distance measuring device sends predominantly zero signals if an obstacle is not detected in an area above the bumper, and sends non-zero signals if the obstacle is detected in the area above the bumper.

25. (New) The device according to claim 18, wherein the vertical distance measuring device sends predominantly zero signals if an obstacle is not detected in an area above the rear bumper, and sends non-zero signals if the obstacle is detected in the area above the rear bumper.